

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 and 13-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada (US 6,522,079) in view of Kijima et al. (US 6,259,500), and claim 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada in view of Kijima et al. and Fukuyoshi et al. (US 6,249,082). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Independent claims 1, 12, and 19 all recite, at least, a packaging plate including “a plurality of protrusions.” In contrast to Applicants’ claimed invention, none of Yamada, Kijima et al., and Fukuyoshi et al., whether taken singly or combined, teach or suggest a packaging plate, let alone a packaging plate having a plurality of protrusions.

For example, the Office Action’s allegation that Yamada discloses “a packaging plate having a plurality of protrusions formed at a side opposite to the plurality of second electrodes (Col. 5, Lines 44-47, Extends-protrudes)” is completely inaccurate. Yamada discloses, at column 5, lines 44-47, “[o]n a main surface of the transparent substrate 10, a gate line GL extends horizontally (in a row direction) along an upper side of each pixel region shown in FIG. 3, and the gate electrodes 11 extend from the gate line GL for each pixel.” Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that Yamada is completely silent with respect to a packaging plate “having a plurality of protrusions,” as recite by independent claims 1, 13, and 19.

Similarly, the Office Action’s allegation that “Kijima et al. teaches specifically an absorber contained within each protrusion (Col. 11, Lines 38-50, Col. 12, lines 14-17, Col. 12, Lines 9-13,...)” is also completely inaccurate, in as much as the Office Action’s allegations may be understood. Applicants respectfully assert that Kijima et al. actually

discloses an electrode 31a having a plurality of minute protrusions 14a' and 14b' of different heights. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that Kijima et al. is completely silent with respect to a packaging plate "having a plurality of protrusions," as recited by independent claims 1, 13, and 19.

For at least the above reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-21 are neither taught nor suggested by any of the applied prior art references, whether taken alone or in combination. Thus, Applicants respectfully assert that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn because the above-discussed novel combination of features are neither taught nor suggested by any of the applied references.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner believe that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

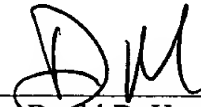
If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of

time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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